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PROGRAMME PLANNING

Letter dated 12 November 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Mauritius to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the First Committee

The African Group of States in the First Committee has mandated me to bring to your attention the attached document. The document reflects the views of the Group on the above stated agenda item. The Group has asked me to request you to circulate this paper as a document of the First Committee.

(Signed) Dr. S. PEERTHUM
Permanent Representative

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Annex

The African Group would wish to recall the allocation by the General Assembly to the First Committee of part of agenda item 105, Programme planning, which related to programmes 1, 2 and 7 of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997. The Group has examined the issues in the programmes and sets out its views below.

The African Group has studied the contents of the three programmes enumerated in documents A/47/6 (Programme 1), A/47/6 (Programme 2) and A/47/6 (Programme 7). The Group also reviewed the records of the Committee for Programme and Coordination, which examined these documents at its thirty-second session, from 31 August to 18 September 1992 (A/47/16 (Part II)).

The African Group endorsed the programme narrative in paragraphs 7.20 and 7.21 of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997. The Group is in agreement with the high priority placed on subprogramme 4 concerning assistance to developing countries on disarmament issues. Resources should therefore be provided to the Secretariat to enable it to implement resolution 46/34 B of 9 December 1991 concerning the drafting of the treaty on the Denuclearization of Africa and resolution 46/37 F of 9 December 1991 on the regional centres.

The Group further notes the efforts being made to restructure the Disarmament section of the Secretariat. The Group is of the view that changes in the Disarmament section should not lead to the reduction of resources devoted to major programmes in the medium-term plan. In particular, adequate resources should be made available for activities that promote confidence-building at the regional level and other disarmament activities that promote international peace and security.